Amusements.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC-8:15-The White Heather, AMERICAN THEATRE-8:15-Queen's Lace Handker THEATRE-8:15-The Swell Miss Fitzwell DWAY THEATRE-8:15-The Highwayman. DEN AUSBEWARE NORM, Marriage of Convenience, matter that TRE-8:30—A Marriage of Convenience, FTH AVENUE THEATRE-8:20—The Royal Box. IRDEN THEATRE-8:15—The Nancy Hanka HRICK THEATRE-8:20—The 1attle Minister, AND OPERA HOUSE-8-16—Never Again, ILLEM OPERA HOUSE-8-16—Never Again, ILLEM OPERA HOUSE-8:15—Never Again, ILLEM OPERA HOUSE-8:15—The French Maid, TT'S THEATRE-8:30—A Stranger in New-York, VING PLACE THEATRE-8-7 The Model, ICKERBOCKER THEATRE-8-20—An American Citizen.

KOSTER & BIAL'S—S-Vaudeville.
LYCEUM THEATRE—S. The Princess and the Butterfly.
MANNATAN THEATRE—S.15—The Bailet Girl.
PASTOR S—12-30 to 11 p. m.—Vaudeville.
PLEASURE PALACE—1-30 to 11 p. m.—Vaudeville.
PROCTOR S—9 a. m. to 11 p. m.—Vaudeville.
WALLACKS THEATRE—S.15—A Ward of France.
WEBER & FIELDS'S MUSIC HALL—2—S—Buriesque—

14TH STREET THEATRE-8:15-An Irish Gentleman.

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New-York Daily Tribune

MONDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1897.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

FOREIGN.—Newspapers in Madrid call for an increase in the Spanish fleet in view of the latest communication from the United States; in Havana Captain-General Blanco gave a banquet to == It is believed that the engineers' unions in Great Britain will vote against accepting the proposed compromise with the employers. The British steamship Lambert's Point, from Norfolk for Liverpool, put into Halifax with fire in her cotton cargo.

DOMESTIC .- Only one life was lost at the arning of the Collecum building in Chicago, other missing persons having turned up safely
Twenty-nine bills relating to the Civil
Service have been introduced in the House of Service have been introduced in the House of Representatives at the special session and the present session. — There are fully a dozen candidates and dark horses for the Maryland Senatorship: Governor Lowndes appears to be in the lead. — The pilot-boat Somers N. Smitn, which is at Mobile, is suspected of being engaged in filibustering, and is being watched by Government officers. — The Salvation Army has abandoned its Prison Gate Home, for the reformation of ex-convicts, in Contra Costa County, Cal. — State Engineer Adams issued a statement showing why it will cost \$16,000,000 to complete the canal improvement. — Efa statement showing why it will cost \$16,000,000 to complete the canal improvement. — Efforts are being made to induce the steel billet makers to ally themselves with the proposed Wire Trust. —— The chairman of the University of Pennsylvania Track Committee denies that a team from that institution is going abroad, and says that if one is sent it will be composed of representatives of all the American colleges. of representatives of all the American colleges.

CITY AND SUBURBAN .- Plans for making the Democratic Club the social headquarters of the party were advanced. — The funeral of George S. Croker was held on Staten Island. — George F. Boulard, the New-York Central civil engineer, who had been missing since 17, returned to his home.

THE WEATHER.—Forecast for to-day: Fair and colder. The temperature yesterday: Highest, 34 degrees; lowest, 30; average, 32.

NEW-YORK'S WATER SUPPLY.

The question of water supply for the metropolis is up again. A bill is being prepared, to be introduced at Albany early in the session, providing for official examination of the Adirondacks and other possible sources. The idea is to secure from some remote and unpolluted source a supply that will be ample for the consolidated cities for all time. Such a supply is plenteous supply of pure water. But it is by it to the city. That is what has hitherto been done, with some success, but with much hardship. Pestilence or war would scarcely have been a greater scourge to parts of Westchester County than the taking of Croton water has been. Property has been seized without adequate compensation, families have been made homeless, villages have been all but ruined, and prosperous farming regions have been transformed into worthless wildernesses. Perhaps good has been done to more people in this clty than evil to people in the country. But it ought to have been possible to do the one with-

It is thought that by going to a remote place water can be got without inflicting such hardships upon any one. Perhaps. Lake George, which has often been mentioned as a source, must then be ruled out. To take the supply from it would ruin it and do gravest injury to all the dwellers on its shores. No harm might be done in the Adirondacks. Yet the destruction of timber in that region has already materially affected the flow of the rivers and brooks, and to draw some hundreds of millions of gallons daily from them could scarcely fall to have a perceptible influence. There is now no more water there than is needed for the woods themselves and for the rivers and canals that are fed from them. By going still further afield, to Lake Champlain or Lake Ontario, a supply might be got without the slightest injury to any existing interest. But the construction of an aqueduct from so remote a point to this city would be an enormously and, it may well be suspected, needlessly expensive undertaking. There is reason to believe that present sources of supply are sufficient for the next hundred years or more, if only their yield is properly

There has already dawned upon this public a glimmering comprehension of the fact that the way to keep streets clean is not to make them dirty. Similarly, the lesson is to be learned that the way to get a sufficient water supply is to make the present supply sufficient. That does not mean that people are not to have all the water they need. It does mean that they are not to waste it. It has long been notorious that much water is wasted in this city Now and then an attempt is made to check it by the use of meters. But these have been put chiefly into tenement-houses and other places where they exact tribute from the poor. The great offenders go free. There is no doubt that if the waste of water now practised in this city were stopped, or as nearly stopped as it might be, the present water supply, or that which will be secured by the completion of the Cornell Dam, would be seen to be ample for a century to come. And that could be done without cost, but with actual pecuniary gain to the city. There are other points worthy of careful con-

sideration—more worthy of it than the Adirondack scheme. One is that suggested by the Chief of the Fire Department last week and hitherto often suggested by other competent authorities, namely, to lay a second set of mains through the principal parts of the city. through which sea water shall be pumped for the extinguishing of fires, washing of streets and similar purposes. A large proportion of oton supply now goes for such es, which sea water would serve not only as well, but actually better. Would it not be as well, but actually better. Would it not be the imports equalled nearly fifteen months' con-seelish to spend millions on an aqueduct to sumption at the rate of 1896, and of combing

into the rivers and sea, and is thus lost. It might be reclaimed and used over and over again, if only New-York would adopt the cleanly and thrifty methods of other cities. It is perfectly possible to run the contents of the sewers into the reservoirs of chemical laboratories, separate the liquids from the solids, transform the latter into marketable commodities, and return the former to the city mains of a mountain brook. And that, too, would cost the city nothing, but actually bring it profit. There are other things than dams and aqueducts to be considered in the great question of the city's water supply.

LIBRARIES AND PARKS.

The effort to secure public library facilities for Brooklyn is commendable, but the proposal to do so by taking a part of Fort Greene Park for a building site is to be condemned in the strongest possible manner. Brooklyn needs more libraries. But she cannot afford to lose a single rood of her parks. It is easy enough to get a library site. It needs only money enough to buy a few city lots in a suitable place. But to make a park is a labor of years. To cut down fine old trees and tear up velvet sward to make room for piles of brick and stone would be monstrous vandalism. Especially would that be the case at Fort Greene, which is downtown, in the crowded part of the city, where every inch of breathing space is precious and where, once lost, it could never be regained unless at enormous cost and after years of waiting and work.

The excuse is made that such a site would cost the city nothing. Is that true? Is that park worth nothing to the city? Has it cost nothing to acquire it, and to maintain it, and to bring it to its present state of leveliness and usefulness? Reckon up what has actually been spent on it in dollars and cents, and it will be seen that it would be far cheaper for the city to buy a block of houses or business buildings elsewhere and clear them off and thus make room for the library. The notion that public property, especially park areas, may be diverted from its proper use and given over to private use, or even other public uses, without compensation because "it costs nothing," is one of the most dishonest of fallacles. The people of Brooklyn have spent vast sums of money on Fort Greene for the sake of having a park there. That ground represents that money and that desire.

The example of New-York is a better one. This city is taking steps for the building of a great public library. But in doing so it will not decrease its park area by so much as a single inch. It will, on the contrary, considerably increase that area. Brooklyn should do likewise. There are parts of that city eminently well suited for the establishment of a library and at the same time in need of open space. Let her purchase a block of ground there, and place a library building upon it, surrounded with a fringe of park. That would be an undertaking worthy of a great city. The spoliation of so much needed a park as Fort Greene would bean everlasting disgrace.

THE IMPORTS IN ADVANCE

Recent statements by some business men of ability and prominence indicate that they have not closely observed the relation of the increase in imports, while the new tariff was pending, to a year's demand, so that it may be of real help to them to learn how far such anticipatory imports should by this time be exhausted. While it is, of course, impossible to determine precisely what quantity of goods of any class has already gone into consumption, there are data which serve to make an approximate estimate unusually safe. For it is well established that the consumption of imported goods in the fiscal year 1896 was needed. Nothing is more essential than a much below the average. In scarcely any branch except woollen goods were imports mano means sure that the means under consid- terially increased, even in comparison with previeration are the best for attaining that end. The | ous years of depression, and the accumulation in | place, impound the precious fluid and convey fair prosperity, with labor generally employed and wages rising, consumption might be expected with the utmost safety to exceed that of the fiscal year 1896, so that the proportion of increase in imports during the five months while the tariff was pending to the total imports in the fiscal year 1896 will undoubtedly compare such imports with a smaller consumption than has existed during the past months of marked improvement, the volume of business running close to that of the most prosperous year in past his-

The increase of imports during the five months ending with July was shown in The Tribune for nearly all articles of importance, and for all in which it had been of consequence, with the proportion of such increase to the total imports of the year 1896. This would indicate what part of the demand in such a year as that was anticipated, and a larger demand would presumably have insured exhaustion of the anticipatory supply in less than that proportion of a year, always putting out of sight such imports of the same article as may have occurred under the new duty. Only ten items are found in which the increase in imports was enough to anticipate five months' consumption at the rate of the fiscal year 1896, and several of these are sumac represented seven months' consumption but only \$140,000 in value, and the imports of unground chicory only \$110,000 in value, though six and a half months' consumption in 1896. The imports of flax and tow, \$500,000 in value, were only three days more than five months' consumption in 1896, and may be considered practically out of the way. The imports of grain bags, \$770,000 in value, and those of rice, \$550,000 in value, cover not quite six months' consumption at the rate of 1896, and with a slight increase of demand would be out of the

Only three articles of consequence to general trade remain-namely, raw wool, rags and shoddy, and these all affect a single industry. The imports of oplum, \$800,000 in value, represented fourteen months' demand, but do not affect general business, nor can the increase of imports in cattle, though about \$500,000 in value, be considered as affecting any market in this country except for a brief time. Putting these aside, with the smaller items before mentioned, the anticipatory imports, except of wool, rags and shoddy, were not larger than would suffice for five months' consumption at the rate of 1896. Many will be surprised to learn that the increase in sugar represented barely a fifth of the total imports during the previous year, and the fact that many large cargoes have recently been started from foreign ports indicates that further supplies are wanted besides the quantity imported during the last two months. The increased imports of burlaps were only as much as four and a half months' consumption in 1896, of tobacco four months, of cutlery, hops and woollen yarn only three months, of woollet cloths not a fifth, and of silk goods not a sixth of the year's consumption.

Moreover, the imports of carpet wool were not more than the consumption of four and a half months at the rate of 1896, and that the supply is running short appears from recent imports and shipments to this from other countries at the new rates of duty. Of clothing wool

bring water from the North Woods for wash- | wool nearly twenty-two months' consumption, ing the streets when the city has an inexhausti- but the consumption of all kinds of wool has ble supply at its very doors? Another thing. this year been much beyond the rate of 1896, Nine-tenths of the water now used in this city | though presumably large stocks of Class 1 is, after use, poured into the sewers and thence and Class 2 yet remain. The increased imports of shoddy were over three times the imports in the year 1896, and of rags equal to one year and nine months' importations, and it is obviously impossible to suppose that these have been exhausted and are no longer in the way of wool-growers. But the stock of woollen goods imported while the new tariff was pending has either been taken into consumption or held over in the hope of getting higher prices in the form of water as pure and sweet as that | than have yet prevailed. And the great stocks imported of many other goods, if not by this time marketed, have for the same reason been held back from market, leaving it more largely to American producers. In substance, except as new duties should by this time be out of the way, either promising to industries a better field or to the Treasury a larger revenue.

STOMACHLESS MAN.

Man may perhaps not do without dining, but apparently he can if need be get on without a stomach. The remarkable operation performed by Dr. Carl Schlatter at Zurich, Switzerland, in the successful removal of the entire stomach from a middle-aged woman, suggests the possibility of the reversal in some cases of of the higher animals.

It is well understood that functions are little specialized in simpler forms of life. the faculties that some of them have can be performed indifferently by one or another part of the organism. Some creatures undoubtedly see, hear and feel to a certain extent all over their bodies, and if cut in two will see, hear and feel equally well. The protozoon that simply sinks its food into the material of its own body needs no stomach. It can turn its exceedingly adaptable flesh into any organ of which it stands in need. The lobster cannot turn himself inside out and use his skin for a stomach at pleasure, but he will grow a new claw when he needs one. Man has settled down into a stereotyped notion of his organs, and taken it for granted that with the peculiar perfection of some of them went a necessary nability of any others to do their work. When deprived of organs that are not essential to life he gets on without having their work done. When deprived of an organ which ordinarily performs functions essential to life he dies. That is what the Swiss woman might have been expected to do. But instead of making a god of her stomach, so to speak, she is showing that she is more than a stomach by turning other parts of her body to do the necessary work that the stomach was expected

Dr. Schlatter's achievement is wonderful as a surgical triumph, but it is more wonderful in that it extends a triffe the domination of man over his own body. Blind men have compensated themselves for loss of sight by sperially acute hearing. Some invalids deprived pathle susceptibilities. The work of one kidney or one lung has been thrown upon the remaining organ and the skin. But never before was there reason to believe that an essential vital function could proceed absolutely independent of the organ calculated to perform it. The intestines in this case have assumed the whole burden of digestion. The result of a previous the entire stomach, suggests the possibility of form a food pouch, and replace in some degree at least the missing organ. Such an incident upts to speculation on the possibility of adaptation to fill the want of other vital organs. Of course, there must be a limit somewhere, but medicine and surgery are constantly pushing it further back. How much further it may be pushed nobody can say, and probably the great surgeons would be the first to doubt there being any great possibility in this direction, and would devote most of their energles to the prevention and cure of the diseases the proof that sometimes we can get on without them gives new force and meaning to the idea that man is more than his body, and that he may rule it instead of having it rule him.

SEVEN MONTHS IN CRETE.

There has been a recrudescence of conflicts between Christians and Mussulmans in Crete, and two French warships have been placed in readiness to proceed thither at a moment's notice. That is the day's news. It recalls strange memorles of a few months ago, and suggests the inquiry what has been accomplished by the much-vaunted "Concert of the Powers," which has for the best part of a year ostensibly exercised control over the progress of affairs in that island. The story is a simple one, easily told and as easily understood.

Let us begin at the middle of May, when the Greek "army of occupation" was warned to get out of Crete as expeditiously as possible. The admirals in command of the blockading fleet then informed the Powers that they deemed !! necessary that the new Governor whom the Powers meant to appoint should arrive in the island and assume authority directly after the departure of the Greek troops. At the end of that month the French Prime Minister proposed relatively insignificant. Thus the imports of to the Powers the immediate appointment of a Civil Provisional Governor from some neutral State, proclamation of autonomy and neutralization of the island, recall of the Turkish troops and various other reforms. In a few days-to be precise, by June 2-all the Powers except Germany signified their acceptance of the proposals, with some slight modifications. So on June 10 M. Hanotaux was able to resubmit his scheme in its amended form, and he added thereto the nomination of M. Numa Droz, of Switzerland, for the Governorship. This was an ideal nomination, M. Droz having been President of Switzerland, and possessing practically every desirable qualification for the place. All the Powers except Germany at once agreed to the suggestion, and even Germany was prevailed upon to do so after a week's delay. Unhappily, the ill-health of his wife constrained M. Droz to decline the appointment, and a new candidate had to be sought

This delay was the Sultan's opportunity. He protested against the plans of the Powers, and out forward a counter-scheme of his own, the sallent points of which were that the Governor should be one of his subjects, that the Turkish garrisons in the island should remain, and that a yearly tribute should be paid by Crete to the Imperial Treasury. The Powers took this into consideration, but did nothing more until the end of September, when M. Hanotaux again took the initiative. That is to say, he urged upon the Powers the desirability of settling the Cretan business at once, but, as his former proposals had not been adopted and his candidate for the Governorship had been withdrawn, it would not, in his opinion, comport with his dignity for him to put forward any other plan or candidate. The answer of the Powers to this reasonable utterance was to continue their polley of inactivity, though there was some unofficial talk of nominating a Colonel Shaefer, of Luxembourg, for the Governorship,

The next positive step was taken, or proposed, by the Sultan. He announced on October 11 his intention-of course, with the permission of the Powers-of marching an army through the island to complete its pacification.

would himself appoint a Governor, who should be a Christian, but an Ottoman subject, and would reorganize the Government of the island in harmony with imperial interests. Lord Salisbury promptly declared that no such arrangement would be acceptable to the Powers. Then Colonel Shaefer reappeared as a candidate. He put himself forward, and most of the Powers intimated that he would be acceptable to them if only one of their number would formally put him in nomination and stand sponsor for him. This, nowever, none of them would do. Presently the Sultan declared with some emphasis that he would not agree to the appointment of a man whom the Powers themselves hesitated to vouch for, and so his candidacy finally lapsed. It was now November 22, and the question of the Governorship was for the time laid aside, and the Powers set to wool, rags and shoddy and the smaller items about trying to execute the other reforms needmentioned, the load of imports in advance of ed. They have been trying ever since that date. They are probably at this moment still trying. But they have accomplished absolutely, nothing. The Cretan question is to-day exactly where it was seven months ago.

itants of that much-vexed Island have become impatient, and are now calling attention back to themselves by stirring up fresh disturbances. Nor will it be a cause for wonder if they show less regard for the "Concert of the Powers" than heretofore, and are less inclined to intrust their "lives, fortunes and sacred honor" to the the tendency to specialization in the evolution guardianship of that impotent, or at least donothing, organization. As for the Powers themselves, they will probably have to do something pretty soon, especially if the troubles in Crete attain considerable dimensions. They will find the problem all the barder to solve now because of the delay, and also because they have now in China another and perhaps still more difficult problem on their hands. Certainly if they cannot settle the Cretan business, right at their own doors, the chances of their partitioning a vast empire at the other side of the world, and administering it well after it is partitioned among them, are not such as to inspire the looker-on with overwhelming confidence.

It is not to be wondered at that the inhab-

THE PIPER'S BROOK CASE.

One of the most hopeful incidents of the time, in the direction of public sanitation and common decency, is the decision in what has been known as the Piper's Brook case in Connecticut. The case was a perfectly simple one, and its circumstances were familiar. Piper's Brook is a stream into which the city of New-Britain pours a considerable part of its sewage. A man owning a dairy farm on the bank of the stream a little below the city found that his cattle would not drink the water of the brook be cause of its pollution with sewage. Thereupon be brought suit against the city for indemnity The case was fought for some time in the courts, but a few days ago the Superlor Court of Hartford County decided it in favor of the plaintiff, and condemned the city of New-Britain to pay him a round sum of damages and also the costs of the suit. Of course the cit will be subject to further mulcting if it persists of almost all bodily senses have developed tele- in maintaining the nuisance, wherefore it will the corrections indicated, the excess of exports doubtless at the earliest possible moment make

some other disposition of its sewage. This sets a splendld precedent, which it is to be hoped will be widely followed, not only in Connecticut, but in all other States. Other cities and towns all over the country are doing just what New-Britain has been doing. Thousands of other farmers have suffered and are suffercase, which did not involve the removal of ling the same evil as that against which the hero of Piper's Brook has made his gallant a future enlargement of the digestive tract to fight. If every one of them, instead of enduring the wrong in stlence, would only bring suit and press it to a finish, there would be the liveliest rattling among the dry bones of Bumbledom this land has ever seen. There is no doubt that, in equity, every man thus situated has a valid claim for indemnity against the city or town that pollutes the water. It is probable that he would be held to have such a claim in law also, in every State that wishes to be deemed civilized. There could scarcely be a more encouraging bit of news than that ten thousand such suits as this over Piper's Brook which ruin the organs rather than to the dis- had been begun. It would mean the beginning the works, is another argument in favor of muof the end of one of the most discreditable. needless and altogether abominable abuses of modern civilization.

MONEY AND BUSINESS.

There was nothing last week to interfere with enjoyment of Christmas dinners. Tammany rejoiced in the rapid rise of street railroad stocks, and Manhattan has risen \$6 and Metropolitan \$30 since Election Day. The coal stocks are strong, Jersey Central climbing nearly six points for the week. Grangers were generally strong, with reports of good earnings. Sugar and Gas were comparatively neglected. but advanced, and the average of sixty most active stocks a little more than recovered the decline of half a dollar per share by Tuesday, while the trusts averaged a gain of 50 cents per share. Wheat was stronger, and corn also, and even cotton gained a fraction. Pig iron turned stronger and there came heavy buying of wool by mills. Another shipment of gold from Australia to San Francisco was followed by a sharp break in sterling exchange, and \$500,000 was withdrawn from the Bank of England for shipment Friday. The course of the local money market strongly impressed upon the mind the fact that the heaviest disbursements ever made about January 1 are near at hand. The contrast of conditions with those of a year ago, and far more with those of two years ago, is pecultarly encouraging, but still more the accumulating evidence that recent events tend to transfer control of the world's money markets to this

Atlantic exports of wheat, 11,579,263 bushels flour included, in December, against 6.961,120 last year, and corn exports in three weeks of 12.134. 443 bushels, against 6,823,598 last year, have cone their part to swell the trade balance which brings gold hither. The total exports of wheat, about 120,000,000 for the half-year, against 129,-175,394 in the same half of 1891, though the export price is even now a little lower than the half-year's average was then. The more strik ing difference is in corn, of which 79,288,000 bushels have been exported in a week less than the half year, against 18,585,504 bushels in the last half of 1891, and only 75,451,849 in the whole year 1891-'92. As foreign demands are so much more largely supplied with corn, those demands appear far greater in the aggregate than in 1891, and must be to sustain the price throughout the current year, but supplies of old corn will after a little be coming no longer, and the new yield may not be large enough to support such heavy shipments instead of wheat during the next six months. The week raised the price of wheat 2% cents and of corn 1 cent. and operations at Chicago indicate that the deal in May will have powerful support.

Cotton recovered a sixteenth last week, although receipts continued for December about as large as in 1894, in twenty-four days 1.581. 986 bales, against 1.781,452 in twenty-eight doys of that year of maximum yield. Exports have been about 38,000 bales smaller than for the same days, and takings of spinners, North and South, about 36,000 larger than in 1894. Early this week the quantity which has come into sight will go above 7,000,000 bales, which will be 50,000 bales more than at the end of 1804. It can hardly be said that there figures support the largest estimates current, but a crop exceeding the previous maximum, though not greatly, would be enough to keep the price low for some months, especially if the state of the markets here and abroad tends to retar! consumption in manufacture. British exports of goods

this year have fallen about 10 per cent below last year's, and the attempted reduction of wages there indicated difficulty. There has been some increase in purchases here since the recent reduction in prices of goods, enough to

cause a slight recovery in the prices of a few. Rather unexpectedly to most dealers, it would seem, heavy purchases of domestic wool by some of the largest mills came before the end of the year, and seem to indicate greater confidence as to the future of the woollen goods market than has yet been shown. As usual, before the season opens some large contracts have been privately made at terms not known, though supposed to be about on a parity with present quotations for light weights, but in some quarters a further advance is reported. The boot and shoe factories are also enjoying a more urgent and larger demand than has been known before in December, and while many have but little work ordered ahead the fact that current consumption has required shipments exceeding last year's to date in December by 53,000 cases, and those of December, 1892, to date by 77,600 cases, or 38 per cent, gives some ground for confidence. Leather is a shade lower for some qualities, though signs of speculation and large transactions forbid change in hemlock sole, but hides at Chicago are slightly lower.

Pig iron is stronger again at Pittsburg, Bessemer at \$10 and Grey Forge at \$9, and prices at Chicago are fully sustained, nor are Eastern quotations lower, though some Southern pig has been reduced here 25 cents, presumably on account of prospective change in freights. The demand for iron and steel products has anticipated the beginning of the year by numerous orders, some of importance, which have given a much better tone to the markets. Chicago reports one trunk line purchasing four thousand cars, three drainage canal bridge contracts pending, of which one calls for 5,400 tons; extraordinary orders for hardware, bars, wagon-making and sheets for tinplate manufacture. It is stated that eight months' capacity of the Illinois Steel Company has already been booked ahead, and sales of rails have advanced the price there to \$20, while 8,000 tons have been sold here for home and 2,000 for Mexican roads. The Eastern Bar Association has fixed 1.1 cents for refined, and tank steel plates at Philadelphia are slightly stronger.

Stocks have been supported by earnings in December 9.2 per cent larger than last year, the Granger, Trunk, Southern and Southwestern roads exceeding their earnings in 1892. though less than in November. Clearings also exceed last year's heavily, but fall behind in comparison with the corresponding week in 1892, when there was extraordinary excitement, with exports of \$4,400,000 gold, money ranging from 6 to 40 per cent, and sales of 2,400,000 shares of stocks. Eut the Union Pacific payments this year have not disturbed the market seriously, and remittances of \$18,000,000 for payment of interest abroad have covered only part of the foreign indebtedness for merchandise. Merchandise exports for three weeks fall ment of last December, while heavy imports last week made the aggregate for four weeks only \$1,800,000 below last year's, but, with all would still much exceed \$50,000,000 for the

Peekskill to the Thousand Islands is one of the best that could be made-to throw into the waste-paper basket.

British critics have called the German Emperor a madman. They must now think there is a good deal of method in his madness. . He is not merely pushing German goods into markets hitherto monopolized by the British, but he has gun to play Britain's game of territorial acquisition with consummate skill. Whether the Germans will develop the genius for colonization and for government of subject races that the British have is an interesting question, as yet unanswered. But William II is grappling with it in a truly imperial spirit,

The experience of Hot Springs in having its water supply shut off by the company that owns nicipal ownership of that essential part of the

The Fifth Avenue Democratic Club was near bankruptcy a little while ago, but if Croker makes it his headquarters, as he intends to do, perhaps becoming its president, it will be solvent nough while Tammany remains in power, and may become a formidable rival of the older Manhattan, which has not been content to be merels the tail of the Tammany kite, as its competitor will certainly and avowedly be.

The killing of two more envoys of peace is reported from Cuba. This would be incredible were it not for the apparently established facts in the Ruiz case and the brazen cynicism with which that hideous tragedy is defended and even applauded by a certain class of Cuban sympathizers. If the Cuban insurgents are actually going to execute the alleged decree of Notember 20, providing for the killing of all envoys of peace, the dictionaries will have to be revised so as to make "Cuban" synonymous with "Thug." But not yet is it to be believed that the islanders have thus relapsed into the worst of barbarism.

The Saxon Government sent its soldiers to aid its subjects who were suffering from floods, and now sends in to the sufferers a bill for services. That entitles it to the championship for utter

The New-York Tribune is recounting with evident relish, day after day, the fact that the vote cast for Judge Wallace, the Republican candidate, in this State, showed a falling off from previous Republican votes. What it is trying to accomplish by thus saying over and over again what everybody knew the day after election we are unable to perceive. It seems to think it is making a point against "Platt," but what under the canopy of heaven had he to do with it more than any other Republican?—(The Poughkeepsie Eagle.

If everybody knew it the "day after election" why did Thomas C. Platt many days after election issue a statement declaring: "In the State "above the Harlem River the Republican ma-"forities were all that could be desired"? Didn't he know what he was talking about, or was he trying to fool people?

If so many people were killed and injured in the Chicago Coliseum fire, though it occurred when the building was nearly empty, imagination shudders at the thought of what would have been the result of a fire when the big building was crowded.

The season of railroad disasters to sleighing parties begins with ominous promptness and deadliness. Like skating on thin ice, rocking boats, and blowing down gun-barrels, driving across railroad tracks in front of approaching trains seems to exert an irresistible fascination over many people, and when done in winter, with snow on the ground, the practice is doubly hazardous and therefore trebly attractive. To say "served them right" is brutal, though in the majority of cases it may be true. Still, it is not creditable to civilization to have the annual slaughter of the careless and foolhardy go on indefinitely. The abolition of grade crossings would end it as well as numerous other evils.

A singularly interesting announcement is that Mr. Jackson, the intrepld and accomplished explorer of Franz Josef Land, means to make an attempt to reach the North Pole by way of Grinnell Land. He at first planned to go up the east coast of Greenland and strike poleward from the north of that island, but abandoned that route when he found that it was already have diamond frames."—(Beston Traveller.

pre-empted by Lieutenant Peary, who will reach it from the west coast of Greenland. He will therefore go up the west coast of Greenland, just as the American explorer will, but on reaching high latitude will turn to the west, instead of to the east. While Lieutenant Peary makes his dash toward the Pole on or near the thirtieth meridian west from Greenwich, Mr. Jackson will make his probably somewhere between the seventleth and eightieth. In those high latitudes, however, they will not be far apart, and every mile made toward the Pole will bring them nearer to each other. It is an interesting feature of the case, too, that the American will travel by way of Sherard Osborn Fiord and Nares Land and other regions bearing the names of English adventurers, and the Englishman will proceed by way of Grinnell Land and Grant Land, and perhaps Cape Columbia. The poetic fitness of the parallel would be complete if Mr. Jackson could only be provided with a stanch American ship, for Lieutenant Peary is to go in an English ship, and indeed in the very one which Mr. Jackson has made famous.

PERSONAL.

Henry Burns, one of the prominent citizens of Frankford, Penn., who has just died, enlisted in the United States Navy at the breaking out of the Civil War, and was one of the thirteen survivors of the ili-fated Harriet Lane, which was sunk in Galveston Harbor by a rebel ram after a most desperate engagement. He was sent a prisoner to Andersonville, and afterward exchanged. After the war he served two terms of enlistment in the Navy, and was for a time on the Asiatic station. He served one term in the State Legislature of 1875, and was postmaster at Frankford during the Harrison Administration. the United States Navy at the breaking out of the

Edward Marsden, a student in Lane Theological Seminary, at Cincinnati, is said to be the first native Alaskan to receive a legal, theological and business education in America. He has also acquired mechanical engineering and the trades of carpenter, bricklayer, house-painter, tinsmith, piano tuner, clock repairing, bookkeeping and typewrit-

When Mr. Gladstone was about to depart on his recent trip to France, some one asked him if he did not think that his continual reading and study had a bad effect on his nerves. "My dear sir," said Mr. Gladstone, "can you imagine what would be the condition of my nerves if I were compelled to do nothing?"

Lord Roslyn announces that he will soon appear on the stage in one of Mr. Pineto's new plays. Miss Virginia Montgomery, of New-Orleans, is the designer of the Confederate monument to be erected at San Antonio, Tex.

A few days ago, ir a stoneyard in the Rue d'Aubervilliers, Paris, in the presence of the sculptor, Pierre Granet, and the architect, Roussi, the bronze bust of the famous French comedian, Frédéric Lemaître, was fastened to its stone base. The monument, which will soon be placed upon the actors tomb, is composed of a horizontal stone, surrounded by an iron grating and surmounted at one end by a vertical stone. Upon the top of this is the bust. A bronze palm-branch runs along the length of this stone. It is arranged so as to show clearly the following inscription: "To Frederick Lemaitre. His friends and admirers." Lemaitre is also to have another monument, to be placed in a square which will be named after him. This monument will be a simple column, upon which will be set a marble bust of the actor.

The late Admiral de Sterneck, of Austria, left & will in which he requested that his corpse should be wrapped in the imperial war standard. He also directed that his heart should lie in the church of Krizlowitz, and his body in the maritime town of Pola, on the Adriatic

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

"The London Telegraph" says that when the British fleet was at Hong Kong a merchant-ship was seen coming over the bar with her ensign upside The ships in the harbor at once lowered lifeboats and raced to be first to give assistance to the supposed sinking ship. When the first boat got within hailing distance they saw the skipper clapping his hands and shouting, "Go it! Come Well pulled!" etc. The officer in charge then said. "What's the matter, captain?" "Nothing the matter," said the skipper, "Then why have you got your ensign upside down?" The skipper looked "It's that boy Joe again. I thought up and said: it was a regatta."

"I hear that the crowd hooted you when you appeared at the Pedlington Theatre Royal."
"Falze, me boy, false," replied the eminent tragedian. "All false. There was no crowd."—(House-

"The London Globe" says that a clever photogra pher has "doctored" a snapshot of an informa royal family group taken at Darmstadt, and produced a new and ostensibly official picture, representing the Kaiser and the Czar with their arms affectionately entwined. In Berlin they buy it by the gross; in St. Petersburg it has been forbidden by law. One capital's meat is another capital's

The art of bathos is tolerably well illustrated by the exclamation of a French critic before an Eng-lish artist's canvas: "C'est superbe. C'est mag-nifique. C'est pretty well."—(Household Words.

Benjamin F. Allen, of Grafton, W. Va., who has just celebrated his 107th birthday, says that he fought in the British Army against Napoleon.

A serious-minded Clevelander went into a depart A serious-minded Crevelander were this a department store not iong ago, and, stepping up to the drug department, asked for a certain infants' food. The bright young woman in charge shook her head. "I'm sorry," she said, "but we are just out of that. We have Blank's Granum and Dash's condensed milk and Space's Lactatum." The serious citizen iooked doubtful. "I'm afraid they wouldn't do, he said. "I suppose," said the young woman sympostically, "you don't like to change." "Oh, it isn't for me," said the serious citizen, hastily, And after he got out of the store he wondered why the girls laughed so suddenly,—(Cleveland Plain Dealer

"The Stanford (Ky.) Journal" says: "The unusual sight of a thirty-five-year-old man going to school can be seen any day at the public school It is 'Ed' Hubbard, who a year or so age decided to make a preacher of himself, and, hav ing no education, he is taking every epportunity to ecure it. He is a good scholar, Pr tells us, but it occasionally becomes necessary to 'keep him in' to make him work a little harder He plays with the boys at recess, and seems to relish football and other games as much as his playmates, the majority of whom are a score or

"Don't you think," asked the curious man, "that it would be a good thing to have all bills before Congress referred, prior to their passage, to the Secretary of Agriculture".

Of course nobody could see his drift, and just to please him he was asked why.

"Because, you know," he replied, "the bills are always full of provisions, and the head of the Agricultural Bureau ought to be posted on provisions, you know."—(Boston Transcript.

An account of a house party at Cloneybrien in a ecent issue of "The Limerick Leader" would indicate that joy is not wholly banished from Ireland. It is as follows: "Miss Ellen Keogh, in sweet voice, gave 'Mother Kissed Me in My Dreams.' Miss Nora Roche sang with winsome melody, 'Father, Dear Father, Come Home with Me Now.' John McCormack rendered 'The Keg of Brandy.' Miss Sarah Sulitvan gave 'Will You Love Me When I'm Old?" in faultless form. Miss L. Ducey, in thrilling accents, rendered of Sweet Dundee.' John Sullivan's 'Maid of Nenagt Town' knocked Sims Reeves to pieces, and J Mullampy, in bewitching tones, gave 'Hard Times Come Again No More,' and many of the young women were so affected that they produced their handkerchiefs to wipe away a tear.

Some time ago C. S. Hetherington bought a \$6 suit of clothes, but they were somewhat small, and he did not wear them. He met "Jack" Burk on the street and told him he could have them. Burk took the clothes, but returned a few days afterward

and said:
"Cliff.' I guess you will have to give me \$3 or
the strength of that suit."
"How does that come?" said Mr. Hetherington
in astonishment.
"Well," said Burk, "I had to have the clother
made a little smaller."—(Atchison Globe.

"The great wheat fields of the West," says "The Kansas City Journal," "are now covered with a

blanket of snow-not mortgages."

She—I don't see what reason you have for expecting anything but a refusal. I never gave you any encouragement.

He (lust rejected)—Oh, Miss Coyne—Maud! You did—you most certainly did encourage me! You told me you had ten thousand a year in your own right.—(Tit-Bits.

The American Association of Women Artists. in Paris, is holding a fortnight's exhibition o paintings, drawings and sculptures at the rooms f the American Club, No. 4 Rue de Chevre The exposition opened on December 11, and will

continue until Christmas Day.